

TEAM MANAGER Barry Darvill has got much work ahead of him before Berks and Bucks shape into contenders for the 1970-71 Southern Counties Championship.

At Loakes Park last Wednesday evening a robust but mobile Army squad rushed three goals past a defence including Wycombe Wanderers' international pairing, John Delaney and Ted Powell.

Potentially the Allied Counties are rich in talent, with other England men in Larry Pritchard and former Enfield star, John Connell, now a member of Slough Town.

They also included another Slough striker, Dave Swain, last season a vital member of Wealdstone's plans.

But Wednesday night proved there's no substitute for teamwork. And the Counties learnt a lesson the hard way losing their 1-0 half-time lead.

Connell, an active but disappointing wingman, was well to the fore as Berks and Bucks made the early running.

He created something out of nothing by shooting close to goal, and then missed a sitter to typify his display on the evening. Mick Chatterton's free kick rocked a post straight from a free kick, and from the resultant corner, Tommy Reardon connected to drive the ball threateningly only inches high.

It was therefore no surprise when the Counties scored, John Delaney doing the spadework for Connell to shoot waist high over keeper Green and into goal after 41 minutes.

The Counties used both subs in the second half, Barry Baker replacing Chatterton, while Wokingham's Thomas took over when Swain limped off the field almost as soon as the period began.

Swain had been hurt late in the first half and was off field for several minutes receiving treatment on an injured foot before the interval.

The Army's fight back in the 50th minute, with Morton punishing tardy defensive work by Delaney after a cross from Coulton.

Wycombe's Kevin O'Brien produced Jekyll and Hyde form on his return after 11 years out of the County XI, but could have done nothing to stop Duffy shooting in the second from outside the area after 66 minutes. The winger was given more than enough time to line up his attempt by slack marking.

It was, however, O'Brien who gave away number three, six minutes from time. Blanche stabbed the ball into goal after

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